

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 06875 170859Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-07 IO-13

OMB-01 DHA-02 /073 W

-----063415 170907Z /21

O R 170844Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5780

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 6875

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, PINT, KS

SUBJECT: HUNGER STRIKE FOR PROMPT RELEASE OF PRISONERS CONTINUES

REF: SEOUL 6825

1. REFTEL MENTIONED THAT A GROUP OF RELATIVES OF PRISONERS BEGAN A HUNGER STRIKE AT SEOULS'S CHEIL CHURCH TO PROTEST SMALL NUMBER OF EM VIOLATORS RELEASED AUGUST 15. GROUP NUMBERS ABOUT 30 PERSONS AND INCLUDED MRS. IM TAE-CHUNG, MRS. KIM KWAN-SUK, WIFE OF SEC GEN, KNCC, AND AGED MOTHER OF FATHER HAM SE-UNG. THEY HAVE EFFECTIVELY STYMIED PLICE EFFORTS TO EJECT THEM FROM CHURCH BY THREATENING TO JUMP FROM SECOND FLOOR OF CHURCH BUILDING IF POLICE ENTER AREA.

2. MRS. KIM TAE-CHUNG WHO FELL ILL FROM FAST HAS RETURNED TO HER HOME, BUT OTHERS ARE CONTINUING STRIKE.

3. DELEGATION OF 16 WOMEN HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS LED BY MISS YI U CHONG WENT TO CHEIL CHURCH AUGUST 17 TO TRY TO INFLUENCE THOSE ON HUNGER STRIKE TO DESIST BUT ESPECIALLY TO GET MRS. KIM KWAN-SUK AND MOTHER OF REV. HAM TO LEAVE CHURCH AND SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION AS THERE HAD BEEN REPORTS
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THAT THESE TWO WOMEN WERE FEELING POORLY. POLICE REFUSED TO ALLOW DELEGATION TO ENTER BUILDING. WHEN WOMEN SAT DOWN ON CHURCH STEPS IN PROTEST. POLICE LOADED THEM INTO BUS, DROVE THEM TO OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN, AND DROPPED THEM OFF TWO AT A TIME IN VARIOUS SUBURBS. THEY RETURNED TO KNCC BUILDING IN MID-AFTERNOON, SAFE BUT ANGRY.

4. MISS YI TOLD EMBOFF THAT SOME OF THOSE ON HUNGER STRIKE
BELIEVE THAT IF THE ROKG IS GOING TO RELEASE 17 PRISONERS
EACH NATIONAL HOLIDAY, MANY PRISONERS WILL REMAIN IN JAIL
FOR A LONG TIME. WHETHER OR NOT THIS IS VIEW OF MOST OF
THOSE ON STRIKE OR NOT, THEY ARE CLEARLY IMPATIENT WITH PACE
OF ROKG RELEASE STRATEGY.
STERN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, PRISONERS, BOYCOTTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation History:
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
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SAS ID: 1575654
Secure: OPEN
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TAGS: SHUM, PINT, KS, (KIM TAE-CHUNG), (KIM KWAN-SUK)
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